

MEMORANDUM



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To:	All Attendees	Date:	4/17/01
From:	Kristie Witter, Montgomery Watson Dallas, Texas	Reference:	4/11/01 Bosque/Leon Rivers Perchlorate Project Team Meeting
Subject:	Meeting Notes		

The following is a final copy of the meeting notes from the events and issues discussed during the April 11, 2001, perchlorate project team meeting held in Lubbock, Texas. The topics are organized in the same order as the agenda.

Attendees:

Corps of Engineers, Ft. Worth District
Brazos River Authority
Montgomery Watson
Texas Tech University
TNRCC

Wayne Elliott, Mark Simmons, Brian Condike
Gayle Haecker, Mike Meadows
Ron Hartline, David Ebersold
Phillip Smith, Todd Anderson
Mike Honeycutt

- I. Tour of Texas Tech Institute of Environmental And Human Health Departments
- II. Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) signing ceremony and Press Conference
- III. Corps Progress Report – Mr. Condike
 - A. Necessary items for future project funding - funding for 2002:
 1. Justification for future project funding: work should be verified in written form to demonstrate the differences between this project and work performed by the Navy. It is also important to stress the following scenarios with regard to funding:
 - Full Funding
 - Partial Funding (schedule delay)
 - No Funding
 2. A clearly defined objective for this project that shows how this is not a duplication of any other project – primarily Navy projects. This objective will require approximately 2 ½ weeks and is expected to be completed the 1st week in May.
 3. A presentation in May 2001 may be necessary. Mr. Condike requested a draft of the presentation 1 week from Monday (4/23/01). A storyboard-type presentation was recommended.
 4. Prepare an interim study report in approximately 1 year (April 2002), to show that the project was worthy of the funding it received.

5. An update on the “eight concerns” letter:
 - Mr. Ray asked Mr. Ebersold to overview this letter for the purpose of a meeting in early May 2001 (in Washington DC), where the funding topic will be addressed.
 - Congressman Edwards is looking to go to committee on or about 5/9/01 for additional funding.
 - The data from Caddo Lake should not be taken out of context – be careful.
 - Mr. Honeycutt (TNRCC) noted the need to point out that our study is addressing Ft. Hood’s potential contribution. The work breakdown will be as follows:
 - 1 Montgomery Watson will take the lead on the presentation,
 - 2 Mr. Elliot (USACE) will take the lead on the white paper, and
 - 3 TTU will provide photos and data.
 - Mr. Condikey indicated in that this work will be covered as the federal briefing under Task 1.3.

B. MOAs and SOWs

1. Mr. Meadows discussed that the tie to TTU and Montgomery Watson’s work has to be clearly established and that the toxicological and ecological work cannot happen effectively without the linkage to Montgomery Watson's work.
 - Montgomery Watson will show that the work is beyond the scope of what the Navy is doing, while being very careful not to imply that the Navy’s work is inadequate.
2. Mr. Elliot will e-mail both the TTU and the Montgomery Watson scopes out to Mr. Ebersold.
3. Mr. Honeycutt (TNRCC) is on the interagency perchlorate steering committee. He requested that Mr. Condikey send him the scopes of work electronically. Mr. Honeycutt offered that the group would be happy to make presentations by the TNRCC or other groups.

C. Briefings

1. Mr. Meadows indicated that Old Lorena Rd and Highway 84 sampling by City of Waco shows consistent hits. He stressed the need to really get into the data and determine what the data show. One important parameter is to show where the perchlorate goes.
2. Mr. Honeycutt (TNRCC) noted the importance of how data is used. He believes that it could be demonstrated statistically that there are more false positives than there have been detections in Lake Belton.
3. Mr. Condikey noted the recent briefing of the BRA board by the USACE and a briefing to Congressman Edwards in DC last week. He noted that the milestone dates in these presentations have not yet been finalized.
4. Mr. Meadows reported that the Blacklands Research Center in Temple, Texas is performing (some) stormwater sampling around Ft. Hood. It was noted that the Blacklands Research Center is an extension of the Texas A&M Campus with NRCS staff, and Mr. Bill Dugas as the head.

5. Mr. Elliot reported on his visit at Ft. Hood last Wednesday. He reported that the day before his arrival, Ft. Hood reportedly sampled both upstream and downstream of the “impact area,” which is on the Cowhouse Creek tributary. Ft. Hood apparently has no problem with USACE going on site to do sampling.
 - It was also noted that the Ft. Hood is concerned with the drinking water issue.
 - Mr. Meadows asked about the possibility of stormwater sampling and monitoring well installation.

D. DOD Coordinations (Discussion)

1. Mr. Ray noted that the Navy probably has overstated the significance of what they have done in the watersheds and in the lakes.
2. Mr. Meadows asked Mr. Condikey how e-data collection from Navy was coming. He indicated in a conversation with Ms. Hare that the USACE will provide written data request coupled with a draft MOU. Mr. Condikey asked for help from Montgomery Watson in drafting a data request.

IV. Texas Tech Progress Report – Dr. Todd Anderson and Dr. Phil Smith

A. Field Trips

1. Dr. Anderson reported that TTU took 72 water samples at 36 different locations.
2. Positive hits were noted at each of the following creeks:
 - Station Creek at 107 (near cemetery) reported 150 ppb perchlorate.
 - Harris Creek under 317 reported 15 ppb perchlorate.
 - The South Bosque at 317 reported 70 ppb perchlorate.

B. Protocols and Sampling

1. The following animals were noted in high numbers near the test sites:
 - birds (cormorants, red head ducks, and wood ducks) and turtles,
 - dogs (primarily on the northern side of the site), and
 - cattle.
2. Dr. Anderson reported that the goal of the effort was to figure out:
 - what to write protocols for sampling on, and
 - what the protocols need to address.
3. TTU may attempt some bird sampling. Transfer to offspring (such as through eggs) is a data gap identified by the Interagency Perchlorate Steering Committee).
4. Dr. Anderson noted that one of the problems is determining what to sample. TTU wants to be equipped to sample as much variety as possible – rodents, mammals, aquatics, avian, etc.
5. It was noted that the following items will require time in obtaining:
 - Rights of entry for the sampling work, and
 - Animal care and use protocols (which are a university requirement that addresses humane treatment of the animals).

C. Graphic Data

- Dr. Smith requested the NWIRP McGregor graphic from the BRA presentation. Mr. Ebersold will be sending this item.

V. Montgomery Watson Progress Report –Mr. David Ebersold and Mr. Ron Hartline

- Montgomery Watson received its authorization 1 week prior to this meeting, on April 3, 2001. Progress to date focused primarily on the Community Relations Plan (one of the first project deliverables), which is discussed in detail under the following agenda item.

- VI. Outline or Draft of Community Relations Plan (CRP) – Mr. Ebersold
- A. Stakeholders
1. The Stakeholder outreach plan needs to address media response to the potential discovery of a disfigured organism similar to what was found in Caddo Lake area. It needs to be determined how information like this is to be released to the public.
 2. Mr. Meadows said that with regard to stakeholder interviews, we should start with the Stakeholder's group since this is already organized.
 - Mr. Condikey expressed the concern that the stakeholders group is almost all public officials.
 - Mr. Meadows suggested that they could request a community member to be included. It was also suggested that we look on the list of RAB attendees for general public attendees.
- B. Web Site
1. It was suggested that a sign-in sheet and a hit counter be included on the web site.
 2. Mr. Ebersold requested suggestions for links and content.
 3. Ms. Haecker suggested that the link open a separate window on the same site and not send users off to other sites. This would keep visitors at the web site.
- VII. Draft Project Management Plan (PMP)
- A. Mr. Elliot has been working on a draft Project Management Plan. Mr. Condikey noted that this COE team sees the PMP as a living document that helps the team determine where they are going and also documents what the team has done.
- B. A draft was handed out – it is somewhat limited because it focuses primarily on a documentation of the past and current, but does little to provide a framework for the future.
- C. Mr. Elliot will email out the current draft. He would like comments back by Friday May 18th.
- D. QAP – Data collection, document preparation, internal peer review, external review by USACE, etc. Mr. Simmons suggested 3 to 4 pages. This needs to be done ASAP.
- VIII. Review and Q&A on TTU MOA and Montgomery Watson SOW
- A. Next Team Meeting: June 7th at BRA Headquarters.